



**Australian
Bureau of
Statistics**

SEPTEMBER 2011

6220.0

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 22 MAR 2012

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For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Supplementary Surveys Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206, <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.



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ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about people aged 15 years and over who are not in the labour force: that is, neither employed nor unemployed. The data measure the potential supply of labour not reflected in employment and unemployment statistics, and measure the characteristics of that potential supply.

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, conducted throughout Australia in September 2011 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Information collected in the survey includes details about whether people not in the labour force wanted to work, reasons why they were not actively looking for work, or were not available for work, and their main activity while not in the labour force.

Many people not in the labour force could be considered to have some attachment to the labour force. For example, they may want a job, but for a variety of reasons are not actively looking for work even though they are available to start a job. There is an expectation that many of these people could move into the labour force in the short term, or could do so if labour market conditions changed.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

.....

ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousand
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
cat. no.	Catalogue number
ILO	International Labour Organization
LFS	Labour Force Survey
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

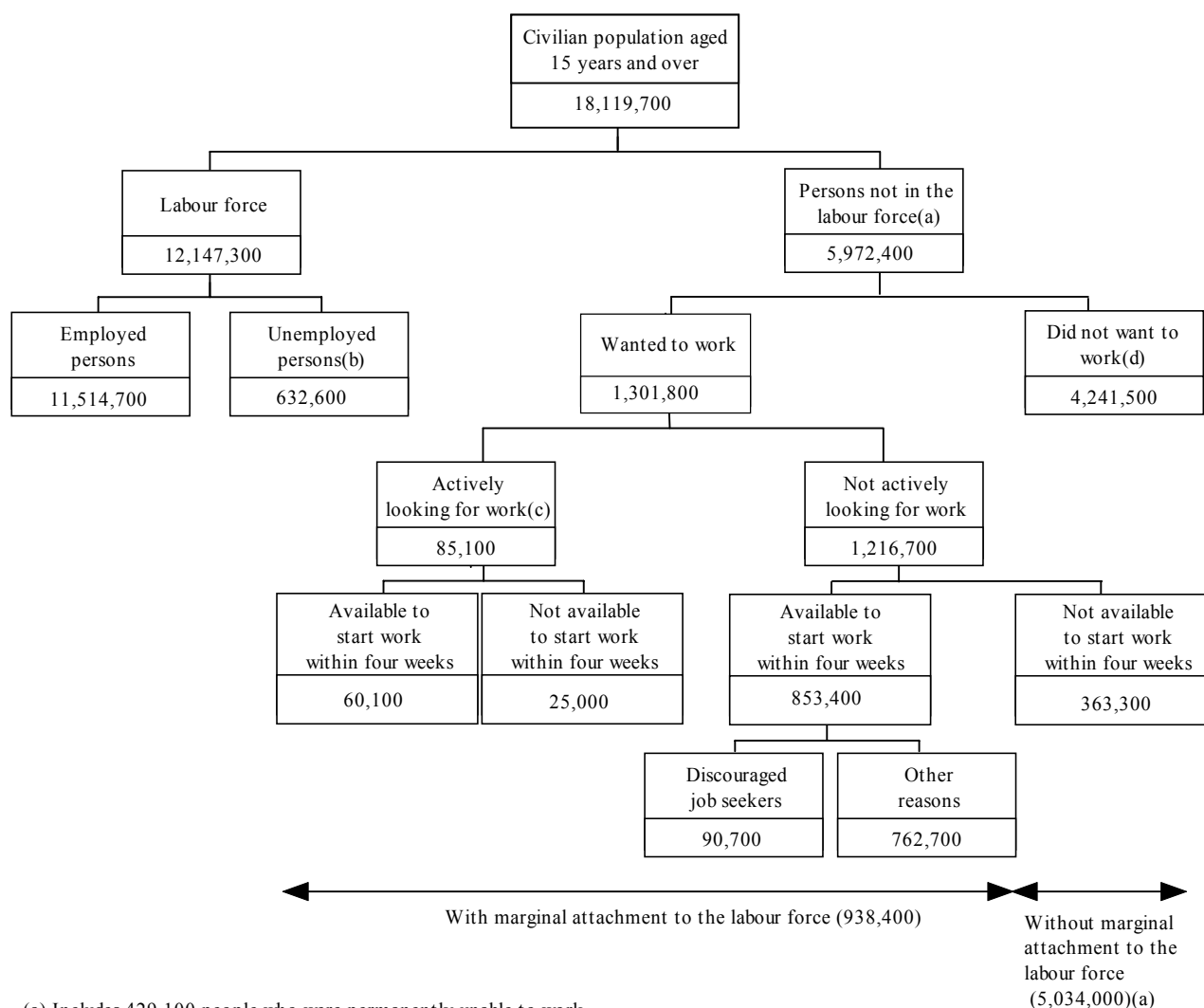
Persons not in the labour force can be divided into those who are marginally attached to the labour force, and those who are not. Persons who are marginally attached to the labour force satisfy some, but not all, of the criteria required to be classified as unemployed.

Persons not in the labour force are considered to be marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- wanted to work and were actively looking for work (but, unlike unemployed people, were not available to start work in the reference week); or
- wanted to work and were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks.

Persons not in the labour force are not marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- did not want to work; or
- wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks.



(a) Includes 429,100 people who were permanently unable to work.

(b) Includes future starters.

(c) Refers to people who were actively looking for work, but were not available to start work in the reference week.

(d) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

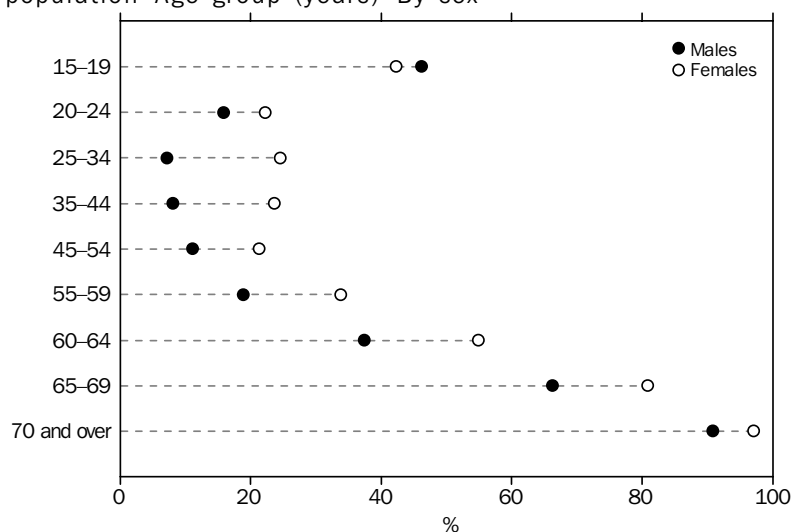
OVERVIEW

In September 2011, there were almost 6 million people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force. This represented 33% of the civilian population aged 15 years and over. Since September 2008, people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force comprised approximately one-third of the civilian population.

Of those people not in the labour force:

- 60% were women;
- 22% wanted to work (23% of women not in the labour force and 20% of men not in the labour force); and
- 16% were aged 15–24 years, 41% were aged 25–64 years and 31% were aged 70 years and over.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Proportion of the civilian population—Age group (years)—By sex



The proportion of men and women who were not in the labour force varied according to age. In the 15–19 year age group, 46% of men and 42% of women were not in the labour force. In each of the remaining age groups, there was a higher proportion of women than men not in the labour force. The proportion of men not in the labour force was lowest for those aged 25–34 years (7%) and 35–44 years (8%). By comparison, the proportion of women not in the labour force was lowest for those aged 45–54 years (21%) and 20–24 years (22%).

WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

In September 2011, there were 938,400 people with marginal attachment to the labour force, representing approximately 16% of people not in the labour force. Of those with marginal attachment to the labour force:

- 587,100 (63%) were women;
- 853,400 (91%) were not actively looking for work;
- 276,400 (29%) were aged 15–24 years; and
- 186,300 (20%) had never held a job.

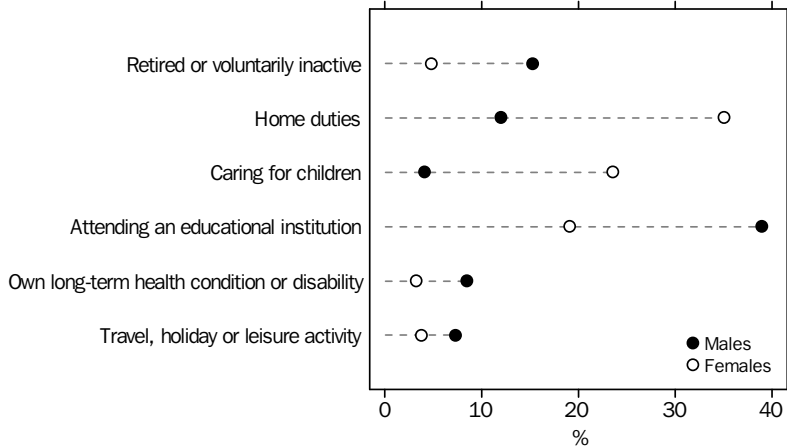
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

WITH MARGINAL
ATTACHMENT TO THE
LABOUR FORCE *continued*

The largest group of men with marginal attachment to the labour force were aged 15–19 years (29%), followed by 20–24 years (12%) and 35–44 years (11%). By comparison, the largest group of women with marginal attachment to the labour force were aged 25–34 years (24%), followed by women aged 35–44 (21%) and 45–54 years (14%).

Main activity when not in
the labour force

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT, Selected main activity when
not in the labour force–By sex



The most commonly reported main activity for men with marginal attachment to the labour force was 'Attending an educational institution' (39% of men compared to 19% of women), whereas for women it was 'Home duties' (35% of women compared to 12% of men) and 'Caring for children' (24% of women compared to 4% of men).

There were 247,600 women not in the labour force because they were caring for children who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work. They cited preferring to look after children and cost of child care as the main reasons for not looking for work.

Time since last job

In September 2011, 80% (752,100) of people with marginal attachment to the labour force had worked before. Just over 50% had worked less than three years ago and 31% had worked less than 12 months ago.

Not actively looking for
work - Intention to enter
the labour force in the
next 12 months

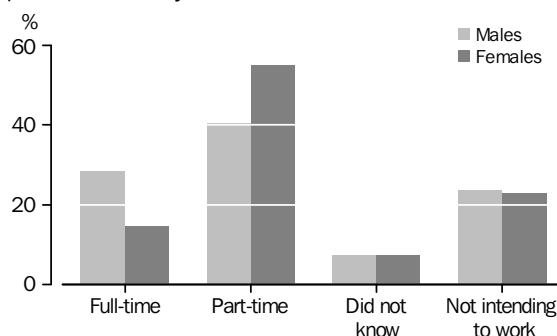
There were 853,400 people who were marginally attached to the labour force and not actively looking for work, of whom 617,600 (72%) indicated that they intended to, or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months. Of those who were marginally attached and intended to, or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months:

- 390,600 (63%) were women, 76% of whom expressed an interest in working part-time;
- 50,800 (8%) were discouraged job seekers; and
- 423,800 (69%) reported that they would prefer to work part-time.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Not actively looking for work - Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months continued

PERSONS NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, Full-time or part-time preference—By sex



Of women with marginal attachment to the labour force who were not actively looking for work, 296,700 (55%) preferred part-time work, while 78,600 (15%) preferred full-time work. For men, 127,000 (40%) preferred part-time work and 89,500 (28%) preferred full-time work. Of those with marginal attachment who were not actively looking for work, 23% reported that they were not intending to work.

Discouraged Job Seekers

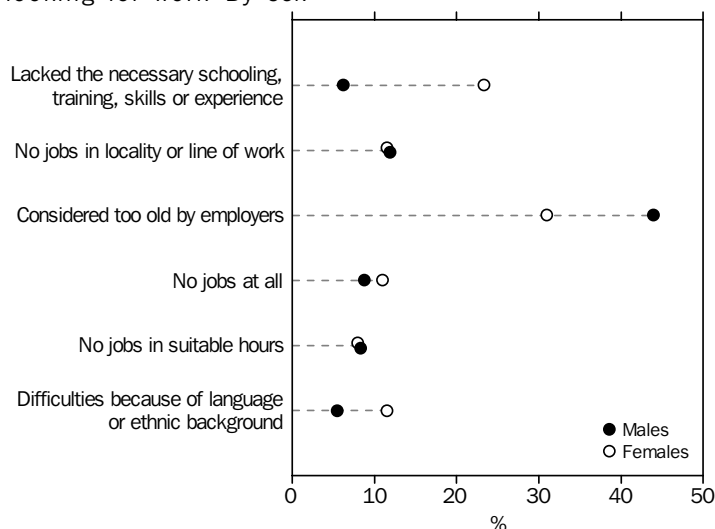
In September 2011, there were 90,700 discouraged job seekers aged 15 years and over, compared with 102,100 in 2010. Of the 90,700 discouraged job seekers:

- 50,700 (56%) were aged 55 years and over;
- 52,400 (58%) were women;
- 79,700 (86%) had worked before;
- 13,600 had worked in the previous 12 months (16% of men and 14% of women);
- 16,400 last worked between 1 year and under 3 years ago (17% of men and 19% of women);
- 50,800 (56%) intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months; of whom
 - 63% preferred to work part-time; and
 - 25,500 had looked for work in the previous 12 months (26% of men and 29% of women).
- 37,100 (41%) did not intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months, of whom 60% stated the main reasons they were not actively looking for work was because they were 'Considered too old by employers'.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Discouraged Job Seekers continued

DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS, Selected main reason for not actively looking for work—By sex



For discouraged job seekers, the most commonly reported main reason for not actively looking for work was 'Considered too old by employers' (36%). This was followed by 'Lacked necessary training, skills or experience' (16%) and 'No jobs in locality or line of work' (12%).

Main reason for not actively looking for work - Other reasons

There were 762,700 people who were not discouraged job seekers, who wanted to work, but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks. These people account for 81% of all people with marginal attachment to the labour force.

PERSONS NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK—OTHER REASONS, Selected main other reason for not actively looking for work—By sex



Of the 762,700 people who were not discouraged job seekers, the most commonly reported main reason for not actively looking for work, by men, was 'Attending an educational institution' (35%), followed by 'Own long-term health condition or disability' (15%). By comparison, the most commonly reported main reason for women was 'Caring for children' (30%), followed by 'Attending an educational institution' (18%).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

In September 2011, there were just over 5 million people (2 million men and 3 million women) aged 15 years and over without marginal attachment to the labour force. Of those without marginal attachment:

- 84% reported that they 'Did not want to work', or 'Did not know' if they wanted to work;
- 7% 'Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks';
- 9% were 'Permanently unable to work';
- 49% were aged 65 years and over (53% of men and 46% of women);
- 16% were aged 55–64 years old; and
- 17% never had a job, of whom 59% were women.

Main activity when not in the labour force

For those without marginal attachment, the most commonly reported main activity when not in the labour force was 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' (33%) followed by 'Home duties' (21%). For men, the most common main activity when not in the labour force was 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' (41%). For women without marginal attachment, the main activity when not in the labour force was 'Home duties' (30%) followed by 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' (28%).

Time since last job

In September 2011, there were 4.2 million people without marginal attachment to the labour force who had previously had a job. Of these:

- 55% last worked 10 or more years ago; and
- 21% last worked less than 3 years ago.

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BECAUSE THEY WERE CARING FOR CHILDREN

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CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, Labour force status and persons not in the labour force summary variable—By sex—September 2008 to September 2011

	2008	2009	2010	2011
	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES				
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	8 298.7	8 523.8	8 865.5	8 967.6
Persons in the labour force	6 137.5	6 275.3	6 546.7	6 581.6
Employed	5 886.0	5 915.5	6 220.9	6 242.3
Unemployed	251.5	359.8	325.8	339.3
Persons not in the labour force	2 161.2	2 248.5	2 318.8	2 386.0
With marginal attachment to the labour force	304.1	327.6	349.4	351.4
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	33.2	34.8	32.9	36.7
Were available to start work within four weeks	23.1	24.4	23.1	23.2
Were not available to start work within four weeks	10.1	10.4	9.9	13.5
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	270.9	292.8	316.5	314.7
Discouraged job seekers(a)	34.7	52.3	39.9	38.3
Other(b)	236.3	240.5	276.6	276.4
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(c)	1 857.1	1 920.9	1 969.3	2 034.6
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	119.3	107.3	126.6	126.7
Did not want to work(d)	1 575.7	1 604.4	1 637.5	1 677.1
FEMALES				
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	8 435.2	8 678.5	9 022.2	9 152.2
Persons in the labour force	5 088.0	5 246.7	5 460.3	5 565.7
Employed	4 856.5	4 956.6	5 176.9	5 272.4
Unemployed	231.5	290.1	283.4	293.3
Persons not in the labour force	3 347.2	3 431.7	3 561.9	3 586.4
With marginal attachment to the labour force	516.1	565.5	576.4	587.1
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	37.0	34.9	41.9	48.4
Were available to start work within four weeks	24.5	25.5	30.2	36.9
Were not available to start work within four weeks	12.5	9.4	11.8	11.4
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	479.1	530.6	534.5	538.7
Discouraged job seekers(a)	39.3	59.5	62.3	52.4
Other(b)	439.9	471.1	472.3	486.3
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(c)	2 831.0	2 866.3	2 985.5	2 999.3
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	240.7	256.4	239.9	236.6
Did not want to work(d)	2 451.9	2 434.0	2 562.0	2 564.4
PERSONS				
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	16 733.9	17 202.3	17 887.7	18 119.7
Persons in the labour force	11 225.5	11 522.0	12 007.0	12 147.3
Employed	10 742.5	10 872.1	11 397.7	11 514.7
Unemployed	483.0	649.9	609.2	632.6
Persons not in the labour force	5 508.4	5 680.3	5 880.7	5 972.4
With marginal attachment to the labour force	820.3	893.1	925.9	938.4
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	70.2	69.7	74.9	85.1
Were available to start work within four weeks	47.6	49.9	53.2	60.1
Were not available to start work within four weeks	22.6	19.8	21.7	25.0
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	750.0	823.4	851.0	853.4
Discouraged job seekers(a)	73.9	111.8	102.1	90.7
Other(b)	676.1	711.6	748.9	762.7
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(c)	4 688.1	4 787.2	4 954.8	5 034.0
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	360.0	363.7	366.5	363.3
Did not want to work(d)	4 027.6	4 038.4	4 199.5	4 241.5

(a) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 25 and 26 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 26 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes people who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(d) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Main activity when not in the labour force—By age group (years)—By sex

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)								Total
	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–59	60–64	65–69	70 and over	
Main activity when not in the labour force	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*4.1	*2.5	*3.4	19.4	31.9	89.9	194.5	541.3	887.0
Home duties	*5.3	*5.8	19.3	23.7	18.9	28.5	26.9	69.7	198.0
Own long-term health condition or disability	20.4	26.6	48.9	74.1	52.1	59.4	35.2	77.9	394.5
Own short-term illness or injury	*3.6	*5.3	8.2	11.5	**1.7	*2.9	*1.9	*3.4	38.5
Looking after ill or disabled person	*6.0	*6.8	8.9	14.2	*6.5	10.3	8.8	17.7	79.4
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	10.5	*6.3	*5.1	*6.9	*6.7	20.6	28.5	75.3	159.9
Other	8.0	12.8	10.3	*3.8	*3.6	*5.9	*4.5	7.9	56.8
Total(a)	482.4	116.8	126.9	168.7	125.1	228.4	316.6	821.0	2 386.0
FEMALES									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*4.8	**1.4	*2.3	16.5	38.6	92.4	156.7	547.1	859.8
Home duties	29.1	120.1	164.7	159.4	95.9	122.7	133.4	281.3	1 106.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	12.8	22.7	30.2	56.7	43.3	43.1	27.4	66.2	302.3
Own short-term illness or injury	*3.5	*3.5	*4.6	8.0	*4.7	*2.0	*2.0	*4.4	32.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	*1.9	7.9	15.6	36.7	21.4	28.5	21.1	31.3	164.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	7.8	*5.4	*2.4	8.3	9.4	24.3	26.2	50.8	134.5
Other	7.7	*7.2	*6.2	*5.3	*3.8	*3.2	*2.3	*2.4	38.1
Total(a)	488.5	397.0	379.8	327.6	231.6	341.8	393.1	1 027.1	3 586.4
PERSONS									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	8.8	*3.8	*5.7	35.9	70.6	182.3	351.2	1 088.4	1 746.7
Home duties	34.4	125.9	184.0	183.1	114.8	151.1	160.3	351.0	1 304.6
Caring for children(b)	55.0	176.3	134.5	21.8	*6.5	10.6	8.2	*5.8	418.7
Attending an educational institution(c)	789.4	99.3	35.3	21.0	*4.0	*2.5	**1.2	**1.6	954.4
Own long-term health condition or disability	33.2	49.3	79.1	130.8	95.4	102.5	62.6	144.1	696.8
Own short-term illness or injury	*7.2	8.8	12.8	19.6	*6.4	*4.9	*3.8	7.8	71.2
Looking after ill or disabled person	7.9	14.7	24.5	51.0	28.0	38.8	29.9	49.0	243.7
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	18.3	11.7	7.5	15.2	16.1	44.8	54.7	126.1	294.4
Working in unpaid voluntary job(d)	**1.0	*3.8	*6.8	9.0	7.5	23.6	30.9	64.2	146.8
Other	15.8	20.1	16.5	9.0	7.4	9.1	*6.8	10.3	95.0
Total	970.9	513.8	506.7	496.3	356.7	570.1	709.7	1 848.1	5 972.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes people who were 'Caring for children', 'Attending an educational institution' and 'Working in unpaid voluntary job'.

(b) Includes 28,000 men and 389,900 women who were 'Caring for children'.

(c) Includes 485,800 men (420,700 aged 15–24) and 468,600 women (368,800 aged 15–24) who were 'Attending an educational institution'.

(d) Includes 57,200 men (26,400 aged 70 and over) and 89,600 women (37,800 aged 70 and over) who were 'Working in unpaid voluntary job'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Selected characteristics—By sex

WANTED TO WORK,
NOT LOOKING, BUT
WERE AVAILABLE

Discouraged
job seekers

Other

Total

Total with
marginal
attachment to
the labour force

Persons not in
the labour force

Proportion
not in the
labour force(a)

'000

'000

'000

'000

'000

%

MALES

State or territory of usual residence

New South Wales	14.0	100.8	114.7	127.8	822.0	28.3
Victoria	12.1	67.4	79.6	90.2	583.5	26.0
Queensland	*5.7	41.8	47.5	53.9	455.6	25.4
South Australia	*2.2	24.5	26.6	28.1	193.7	29.1
Western Australia	*2.6	26.4	29.0	32.3	216.1	23.0
Tasmania	**1.0	8.4	9.4	10.3	68.6	34.2
Northern Territory	**0.3	**1.6	*1.9	*2.1	13.9	17.4
Australian Capital Territory	**0.4	*5.5	*5.9	*6.6	32.5	22.8

Age group (years)

15–19	*4.8	89.1	93.9	100.9	349.0	46.2
20–24	*3.2	30.9	34.1	40.9	133.4	15.8
25–34	*1.8	25.8	27.6	33.5	116.8	7.2
35–44	**1.7	29.2	30.9	39.3	126.9	8.1
45–54	*3.7	24.2	27.9	33.5	168.7	11.1
55–59	**1.7	18.3	20.0	21.0	125.1	18.9
60–64	*6.4	20.7	27.1	29.3	228.4	37.4
65–69	8.0	22.0	30.0	30.0	316.6	66.2
70 and over	*7.0	16.1	23.1	23.1	821.0	90.8

Relationship in household

Family member	27.0	216.5	243.5	271.8	1 836.2	25.2
Husband, wife or partner	19.0	90.8	109.8	122.7	1 239.2	23.2
Lone parent	**0.6	7.7	8.3	8.4	42.0	24.4
Dependent student	*3.4	80.5	83.9	91.8	332.1	53.3
Non-dependent child	*3.2	28.7	31.9	36.8	147.4	16.1
Other family person	**0.9	8.8	9.6	12.1	75.5	33.2
Non-family member	10.8	52.4	63.2	70.8	485.9	31.7
Relationship not determined	**0.4	7.6	8.0	8.8	63.9	41.7

Country of birth(b)

Born in Australia	23.3	213.6	236.9	260.7	1 599.2	25.4
Born overseas	14.9	62.8	77.8	90.6	786.0	29.3
Born in main English-speaking Countries	*3.8	23.4	27.2	33.0	257.4	25.8
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	11.1	39.5	50.6	57.6	528.6	31.4

Total	38.3	276.4	314.7	351.4	2 386.0	26.6
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Selected
characteristics—By sex *continued*

WANTED TO WORK,
NOT LOOKING, BUT
WERE AVAILABLE

Discouraged
job seekers

Other

Total

Total with
marginal
attachment to
the labour force

Persons not in
the labour force

Proportion
not in the
labour force(a)

'000

'000

'000

'000

'000

%

FEMALES

State or territory of usual residence

New South Wales	19.4	159.3	178.7	196.4	1 228.5	41.1
Victoria	12.1	127.5	139.6	147.7	906.3	39.4
Queensland	12.3	87.6	100.0	113.6	676.2	37.0
South Australia	*3.4	36.7	40.1	41.9	283.1	41.3
Western Australia	*3.3	52.7	56.0	60.7	334.2	36.7
Tasmania	**1.5	14.0	15.5	16.5	91.2	43.8
Northern Territory	—	**1.7	**1.7	*2.3	20.6	25.8
Australian Capital Territory	**0.4	*6.9	*7.2	8.0	46.3	31.2

Age group (years)

15–19	*2.3	68.2	70.5	77.1	309.6	42.3
20–24	**1.6	47.1	48.7	57.5	178.9	22.2
25–34	*5.7	124.7	130.4	142.0	397.0	24.6
35–44	*7.2	106.5	113.7	123.4	379.8	23.6
45–54	8.0	65.4	73.5	80.8	327.6	21.3
55–59	*5.0	23.9	28.8	31.5	231.6	33.8
60–64	8.5	30.1	38.6	40.4	341.8	54.9
65–69	*5.0	12.8	17.9	17.9	393.1	80.8
70 and over	9.0	7.5	16.5	16.5	1 027.1	97.1

Relationship in household

Family member	38.4	434.7	473.2	511.9	2 761.6	36.8
Husband, wife or partner	26.0	275.8	301.8	320.5	1 916.3	36.7
Lone parent	7.5	73.4	80.9	90.6	325.0	40.5
Dependent student	**1.3	60.3	61.6	66.8	284.2	44.0
Non-dependent child	**1.7	16.8	18.5	22.5	90.0	15.4
Other family person	*1.9	8.4	10.3	11.6	146.1	58.4
Non-family member	13.5	43.6	57.1	65.0	739.4	49.4
Relationship not determined	**0.4	8.0	8.4	10.2	85.5	58.5

Country of birth(b)

Born in Australia	31.2	339.1	370.4	403.0	2 362.0	36.8
Born overseas	21.2	147.2	168.3	184.1	1 223.5	44.7
Born in main English-speaking Countries	8.6	51.5	60.2	64.8	355.7	37.4
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	12.5	95.7	108.2	119.3	867.8	48.6

Total	52.4	486.3	538.7	587.1	3 586.4	39.2
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Selected characteristics—By sex *continued*

WANTED TO WORK,
NOT LOOKING, BUT
WERE AVAILABLE

Discouraged
job seekers

Other

Total

Total with
marginal
attachment to
the labour force

Persons not in
the labour force

Proportion
not in the
labour force(a)

'000

'000

'000

'000

'000

%

PERSONS

State or territory of usual residence

New South Wales	33.4	260.1	293.5	324.2	2 050.5	34.8
Victoria	24.3	194.9	219.2	237.9	1 489.8	32.8
Queensland	18.1	129.4	147.5	167.5	1 131.8	31.3
South Australia	*5.6	61.2	66.8	70.1	476.8	35.3
Western Australia	*5.9	79.1	85.0	93.0	550.3	29.7
Tasmania	*2.5	22.4	24.9	26.8	159.8	39.1
Northern Territory	**0.3	*3.3	*3.5	*4.4	34.5	21.6
Australian Capital Territory	**0.8	12.3	13.1	14.6	78.8	27.1

Age group (years)

15–19	*7.1	157.3	164.4	178.0	658.6	44.3
20–24	*4.8	78.0	82.8	98.4	312.3	19.0
25–34	7.5	150.5	158.0	175.5	513.8	15.8
35–44	8.9	135.7	144.7	162.6	506.7	16.0
45–54	11.7	89.7	101.4	114.3	496.3	16.2
55–59	*6.7	42.2	48.9	52.5	356.7	26.5
60–64	14.9	50.9	65.7	69.7	570.1	46.2
65–69	13.0	34.9	47.9	47.9	709.7	73.5
70 and over	16.1	23.6	39.6	39.6	1 848.1	94.2

Relationship in household

Family member	65.4	651.2	716.6	783.6	4 597.8	31.1
Husband, wife or partner	45.0	366.6	411.6	443.2	3 155.5	29.8
Lone parent	8.1	81.1	89.2	99.0	367.0	37.7
Dependent student	*4.7	140.8	145.5	158.5	616.3	48.5
Non-dependent child	*4.9	45.5	50.4	59.2	237.4	15.8
Other family person	*2.8	17.2	19.9	23.6	221.6	46.4
Non-family member	24.4	96.0	120.3	135.8	1 225.3	40.5
Relationship not determined	**0.8	15.6	16.4	19.0	149.4	49.9

Country of birth(b)

Born in Australia	54.6	552.7	607.2	663.7	3 961.2	31.2
Born overseas	36.1	210.0	246.1	274.7	2 009.4	37.1
Born in main English-speaking Countries	12.5	74.9	87.4	97.8	613.1	31.5
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	23.6	135.2	158.8	176.9	1 396.4	40.2

Total **90.7** **762.7** **853.4** **938.4** **5 972.4** **33.0**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force —By sex

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			<i>Total with marginal attachment to the labour force</i>	<i>Total persons not in the labour force</i>
	<i>Discouraged job seekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES					
Time since last job					
Had a job	33.5	194.4	227.9	259.0	1 939.5
Under 12 months	*6.2	76.8	83.0	104.8	267.4
1 and under 3 years	*6.7	51.3	58.0	62.2	245.0
3 and under 5 years	*5.5	22.8	28.2	30.8	181.2
5 and under 10 years	7.9	18.1	26.0	28.2	332.8
10 and under 20 years	*5.3	23.0	28.3	28.8	505.3
20 years or more	*2.0	*2.4	*4.4	*4.4	407.6
Never had a job	*4.7	82.0	86.7	92.3	446.5
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	13.8	38.9	52.7	53.6	887.0
Home duties	7.5	32.1	39.6	42.2	198.0
Caring for children	**0.9	11.9	12.8	14.4	28.8
Attending an educational institution	*6.4	115.6	122.0	137.1	485.8
Own long-term health condition or disability	*3.5	24.1	27.6	29.9	394.5
Own short-term illness or injury	**0.4	7.8	8.2	10.2	38.5
Looking after ill or disabled person	**1.0	*7.3	8.3	8.6	79.4
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*1.8	19.9	21.7	25.7	159.9
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.0	*5.0	*6.0	*6.0	57.2
Other	*1.8	14.0	15.8	23.6	56.8
Total	38.3	276.4	314.7	351.4	2 386.0
FEMALES					
Time since last job					
Had a job	46.2	405.6	451.8	493.1	2 989.0
Under 12 months	7.4	98.7	106.1	125.4	389.5
1 and under 3 years	9.7	88.1	97.9	104.4	357.5
3 and under 5 years	*6.2	76.3	82.5	91.1	286.9
5 and under 10 years	*7.1	78.3	85.4	89.2	440.2
10 and under 20 years	9.6	48.8	58.4	60.5	554.1
20 years or more	*6.1	15.3	21.5	22.5	960.8
Never had a job	*6.2	80.7	87.0	94.0	597.5
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	8.9	17.8	26.8	28.3	859.8
Home duties	25.7	168.7	194.4	206.0	1 106.6
Caring for children	*5.6	125.7	131.3	138.5	389.9
Attending an educational institution	*3.2	94.9	98.1	112.2	468.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	**0.5	15.9	16.3	19.6	302.3
Own short-term illness or injury	**1.0	9.9	10.9	14.5	32.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	**0.8	16.3	17.1	17.7	164.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*2.9	18.6	21.5	22.6	134.5
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*2.4	10.6	13.1	15.4	89.6
Other	**1.4	7.9	9.3	12.2	38.1
Total	52.4	486.3	538.7	587.1	3 586.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force —By sex *continued*

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			Total with marginal attachment to the labour force	Total persons not in the labour force
	Discouraged job seekers	Other	Total		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS					
Time since last job					
Had a job	79.7	600.0	679.7	752.1	4 928.4
Under 12 months	13.6	175.6	189.1	230.2	656.9
1 and under 3 years	16.4	139.4	155.9	166.6	602.6
3 and under 5 years	11.7	99.0	110.7	121.9	468.2
5 and under 10 years	14.9	96.4	111.4	117.4	773.0
10 and under 20 years	15.0	71.8	86.7	89.2	1 059.4
20 years or more	8.1	17.8	25.9	26.9	1 368.4
Never had a job	11.0	162.7	173.7	186.3	1 044.0
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	22.8	56.7	79.5	82.0	1 746.7
Home duties	33.2	200.8	234.0	248.3	1 304.6
Caring for children	*6.5	137.6	144.1	152.9	418.7
Attending an educational institution	9.6	210.4	220.1	249.3	954.4
Own long-term health condition or disability	*4.0	39.9	43.9	49.5	696.8
Own short-term illness or injury	**1.5	17.7	19.1	24.7	71.2
Looking after ill or disabled person	*1.9	23.6	25.4	26.3	243.7
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*4.7	38.5	43.1	48.3	294.4
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*3.4	15.6	19.1	21.4	146.8
Other	*3.2	21.9	25.1	35.8	95.0
Total	90.7	762.7	853.4	938.4	5 972.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK(a), Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and full-time or part-time preferences

	INTENTION TO ENTER THE LABOUR FORCE IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS			FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME PREFERENCE(b)			Total(c)
	<i>Intended to enter</i>	<i>Might enter</i>	<i>Did not intend to enter</i>	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>	<i>Did not know</i>	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Sex							
Males	175.0	52.0	74.7	89.5	127.0	23.4	314.7
Females	284.1	106.5	122.9	78.6	296.7	40.5	538.7
Main reason for not actively looking for work							
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	459.1	158.5	197.6	168.1	423.8	63.9	853.4
Discouraged jobseekers(d)	32.3	18.5	37.1	17.0	32.0	*4.6	90.7
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	7.4	*2.8	*3.9	*2.3	7.5	**0.9	14.6
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	*3.5	*3.4	**0.7	*3.0	*2.6	**1.6	7.9
No jobs in locality or line of work	*5.5	*2.7	*2.4	*3.6	*4.5	**0.1	10.6
No jobs at all	*4.6	**0.6	*3.4	*3.0	*2.1	**0.5	9.1
Considered too old by employers	*5.5	*4.5	22.3	*3.6	*6.3	**0.9	33.0
No jobs in suitable hours	*2.6	*2.0	*2.3	**0.9	*3.7	—	*6.9
Other reasons	426.8	140.1	160.5	151.1	391.8	59.3	762.7
Personal reasons(e)	220.6	66.4	76.7	75.4	197.7	32.1	381.8
Own short-term illness or injury	20.9	*6.9	*5.4	9.7	17.7	*3.5	36.4
Own long-term health condition or disability	28.3	16.9	30.1	11.9	30.9	9.2	82.0
Attending an educational institution	136.8	29.9	12.7	37.7	119.7	15.2	185.3
Other personal reasons	33.7	12.7	26.3	16.0	28.6	*4.3	75.1
Family reasons	107.4	56.6	62.2	32.3	127.1	17.0	238.6
Ill health of other than self	10.7	*6.6	*6.4	*4.6	12.2	*2.6	25.8
Caring for children	71.5	35.7	39.8	19.1	84.3	10.5	153.7
Other family considerations	25.2	14.3	16.0	8.6	30.5	*3.9	59.1
Other reasons	43.1	13.4	18.4	19.3	33.9	*6.5	78.2
Had a job to go to	47.3	**1.5	**1.7	19.8	28.2	*1.8	51.5
Did not know	8.3	*2.2	**1.5	*4.3	*4.9	*1.9	12.6
Total	459.1	158.5	197.6	168.1	423.8	63.9	853.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) This table is restricted to those who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks.

(b) Data relates to people who intend to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

(c) Includes people who 'Did not know' whether they intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

(d) Includes 'Considered too young by employers' and 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers'.

(e) Includes pregnancy.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, Main reason
for not actively looking for work—By age group (years) and sex

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						SEX		Total
	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–69	70 and over	Males	Females	
<i>Main reason not actively looking for work</i>	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Discouraged jobseekers(a)	11.8	7.5	8.9	11.7	34.6	16.1	38.3	52.4	90.7
Considered too old by employers	**0.4	—	—	**1.3	18.3	13.0	16.8	16.2	33.0
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	*3.3	*2.7	*2.2	**1.5	*3.9	**0.9	*2.4	12.2	14.6
No jobs in suitable hours	**1.6	**0.9	**1.2	**1.3	*1.9	—	*3.2	*3.7	*6.9
No jobs in locality or line of work/No jobs at all	*4.2	*1.9	*1.8	*2.6	7.5	**1.7	7.9	11.8	19.8
Other reasons	235.4	150.5	135.7	89.7	127.9	23.6	276.4	486.3	762.7
Personal reasons(b)	175.5	38.5	35.3	44.3	75.6	12.5	190.6	191.3	381.8
Own short-term illness or injury	*4.0	*3.5	*7.1	*6.8	11.8	*3.2	13.8	22.6	36.4
Own long-term health condition or disability	*6.7	7.5	13.6	20.8	30.5	*2.9	42.6	39.4	82.0
Attending an educational institution	155.2	18.4	8.2	*2.6	**0.9	—	97.4	87.9	185.3
Other personal reasons	8.3	7.7	*6.1	14.0	32.5	*6.5	36.8	38.4	75.1
Family reasons	23.9	87.3	78.4	27.5	17.6	*3.8	24.1	214.5	238.6
Caring for children	18.2	71.2	54.9	*6.4	*2.5	**0.5	8.0	145.7	153.7
Ill health of other than self	**1.7	*4.5	*3.7	10.1	*5.3	**0.5	8.6	17.2	25.8
Other family considerations	*4.1	11.7	19.8	11.0	9.8	*2.8	7.5	51.6	59.1
Other reasons	20.8	8.6	7.8	9.8	24.8	*6.5	37.4	40.8	78.2
Had a job to go to	10.2	14.1	12.3	7.4	*7.0	**0.6	19.7	31.8	51.5
Did not know	*5.0	*2.0	*1.9	**0.7	*2.8	**0.2	*4.7	7.9	12.6
Total	247.2	158.0	144.7	101.4	162.5	39.6	314.7	538.7	853.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes 'Considered too young by employers', 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'Difficulties because of language or ethnic background'.

(b) Includes 'Pregnancy'.

	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000
.....			
Age group (years)			
15–24	8.0	*3.9	11.8
25–34	*1.8	*5.7	7.5
35–44	**1.7	*7.2	8.9
45–54	*3.7	8.0	11.7
55–59	*1.7	*5.0	*6.7
60–64	*6.4	8.5	14.9
65–69	8.0	*5.0	13.0
70 and over	*7.0	9.0	16.1
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months			
Had looked for work	10.1	15.4	25.5
Less than 13 weeks ago	8.0	11.7	19.7
13 weeks to 52 weeks ago	*2.1	*3.7	*5.8
Had not looked for work	28.2	37.0	65.2
Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months(a)			
Intended to enter	13.3	19.0	32.3
Might enter	8.1	10.4	18.5
Did not intend to enter	16.7	20.3	37.1
Time since last job			
Had a job	33.5	46.2	79.7
Under 12 months	*6.2	7.4	13.6
1 and under 3 years	*6.7	9.7	16.4
3 and under 5 years	*5.5	*6.2	11.7
5 and under 10 years	7.9	*7.1	14.9
10 and under 20 years	*5.3	9.6	15.0
20 years or more	*2.0	*6.1	8.1
Never had a job	*4.7	*6.2	11.0
Total	38.3	52.4	90.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Excludes people who 'Did not know' whether they intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

	<i>Wanted to work but not actively looking and not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	40.3	558.3	694.2	822.0
Victoria	36.7	408.9	493.4	583.5
Queensland	23.1	341.3	401.7	455.6
South Australia	7.7	141.6	165.5	193.7
Western Australia	12.3	150.8	183.8	216.1
Tasmania	3.6	45.1	58.3	68.6
Northern Territory	*1.1	9.2	11.9	13.9
Australian Capital Territory	*1.8	22.0	25.9	32.5
Age group (years)				
15–19	31.6	211.1	248.1	349.0
20–24	16.7	68.4	92.6	133.4
25–34	16.9	49.3	83.3	116.8
35–44	14.1	44.1	87.6	126.9
45–54	19.6	75.7	135.2	168.7
55–59	8.0	65.9	104.1	125.1
60–64	8.9	147.0	199.1	228.4
65–69	*5.6	260.8	286.6	316.6
70 and over	*5.3	754.8	798.0	821.0
Relationship in household				
Family member	100.9	1 302.8	1 564.4	1 836.2
Husband, wife or partner	45.4	961.2	1 116.5	1 239.2
Lone parent	*2.1	26.0	33.6	42.0
Dependent student	32.6	204.2	240.3	332.1
Non-dependent child	18.0	59.5	110.7	147.4
Other family person	*2.8	52.0	63.4	75.5
Non-family member	23.3	329.4	415.1	485.9
Relationship not determined	*2.4	44.9	55.1	63.9
Country of birth(c)				
Born in Australia	89.0	1 083.1	1 338.4	1 599.2
Born overseas	37.6	593.1	695.3	786.0
Born in main English-speaking countries	8.4	203.1	224.4	257.4
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	29.3	390.1	470.9	528.6
Time since last job				
Had a job	90.6	1 402.8	1 680.4	1 939.5
Under 12 months	35.6	118.3	162.7	267.4
1 and under 3 years	23.0	143.6	182.9	245.0
3 and under 5 years	12.1	116.4	150.5	181.2
5 and under 10 years	10.8	257.8	304.7	332.8
10 and under 20 years	*6.0	409.0	476.6	505.3
20 years or more	*3.2	357.6	403.2	407.6
Never had a job	36.1	274.3	354.2	446.5
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	7.9	784.9	833.3	887.0
Home duties	*5.0	126.0	155.8	198.0
Caring for children	**1.2	12.2	14.4	28.8
Attending an educational institution	55.0	288.7	348.7	485.8
Own long-term health condition or disability	27.8	198.7	364.6	394.5
Own short-term illness or injury	10.6	11.4	28.4	38.5
Looking after ill or disabled person	10.1	54.8	70.8	79.4
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*3.1	128.3	134.2	159.9
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.4	47.6	51.2	57.2
Other	*4.7	24.4	33.2	56.8
Total	126.7	1 677.1	2 034.6	2 386.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(b) Includes 429,100 people (230,800 men and 198,300 women)

who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(c) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

	Wanted to work but not actively looking and not available	Did not want to work(a)	Total without marginal attachment(b)	Total not in the labour force
	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	81.2	865.0	1 032.1	1 228.5
Victoria	62.0	651.2	758.6	906.3
Queensland	48.5	483.2	562.7	676.2
South Australia	15.7	210.2	241.2	283.1
Western Australia	20.6	240.6	273.6	334.2
Tasmania	3.4	65.2	74.7	91.2
Northern Territory	1.7	15.6	18.3	20.6
Australian Capital Territory	3.5	33.3	38.3	46.3
Age group (years)				
15–19	29.0	196.5	232.6	309.6
20–24	22.8	94.1	121.4	178.9
25–34	69.2	169.1	255.0	397.0
35–44	55.9	180.1	256.4	379.8
45–54	27.5	186.4	246.8	327.6
55–59	13.5	157.7	200.1	231.6
60–64	7.7	252.8	301.4	341.8
65–69	*5.7	352.7	375.2	393.1
70 and over	*5.3	975.0	1 010.5	1 027.1
Relationship in household				
Family member	210.8	1 904.4	2 249.7	2 761.6
Husband, wife or partner	138.7	1 375.7	1 595.8	1 916.3
Lone parent	34.3	179.4	234.4	325.0
Dependent student	25.3	186.3	217.4	284.2
Non-dependent child	9.6	41.4	67.6	90.0
Other family person	*3.0	121.5	134.5	146.1
Non-family member	21.7	592.5	674.4	739.4
Relationship not determined	*4.1	67.5	75.2	85.5
Country of birth(c)				
Born in Australia	152.9	1 672.6	1 959.0	2 362.0
Born overseas	83.7	891.3	1 039.4	1 223.5
Born in main English-speaking countries	20.1	250.6	290.9	355.7
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	63.7	640.7	748.5	867.8
Time since last job				
Had a job	194.3	2 153.5	2 495.9	2 989.0
Under 12 months	81.3	175.1	264.1	389.5
1 and under 3 years	46.4	193.8	253.1	357.5
3 and under 5 years	20.2	166.2	195.8	286.9
5 and under 10 years	22.4	310.8	351.0	440.2
10 and under 20 years	15.0	436.6	493.6	554.1
20 years or more	9.0	871.0	938.3	960.8
Never had a job	42.3	410.9	503.5	597.5
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	8.3	792.6	831.4	859.8
Home duties	57.0	798.6	900.5	1 106.6
Caring for children	74.1	174.9	251.4	389.9
Attending an educational institution	51.1	298.3	356.4	468.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	20.8	166.7	282.7	302.3
Own short-term illness or injury	*5.5	9.2	18.2	32.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	9.3	129.6	146.6	164.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*4.0	105.3	112.0	134.5
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*3.0	69.9	74.2	89.6
Other	*3.8	19.1	26.0	38.1
Total	236.6	2 564.4	2 999.3	3 586.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(b) Includes 429,100 people (230,800 men and 198,300 women) who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(c) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

	<i>Wanted to work but not actively looking and not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	121.5	1 423.3	1 726.3	2 050.5
Victoria	98.7	1 060.1	1 251.9	1 489.8
Queensland	71.6	824.5	964.3	1 131.8
South Australia	23.5	351.8	406.7	476.8
Western Australia	32.9	391.4	457.4	550.3
Tasmania	7.0	110.3	133.0	159.8
Northern Territory	2.9	24.8	30.1	34.5
Australian Capital Territory	5.4	55.3	64.2	78.8
Age group (years)				
15–19	60.6	407.6	480.7	658.6
20–24	39.5	162.5	214.0	312.3
25–34	86.1	218.4	338.3	513.8
35–44	70.0	224.2	344.0	506.7
45–54	47.2	262.2	382.0	496.3
55–59	21.5	223.6	304.1	356.7
60–64	16.6	399.8	500.5	570.1
65–69	11.2	613.5	661.8	709.7
70 and over	10.6	1 729.8	1 808.5	1 848.1
Relationship in household				
Family member	311.8	3 207.2	3 814.1	4 597.8
Husband, wife or partner	184.1	2 337.0	2 712.3	3 155.5
Lone parent	36.3	205.3	268.0	367.0
Dependent student	57.9	390.5	457.7	616.3
Non-dependent child	27.6	100.9	178.2	237.4
Other family person	*5.8	173.6	197.9	221.6
Non-family member	45.0	921.8	1 089.5	1 225.3
Relationship not determined	*6.5	112.4	130.3	149.4
Country of birth(c)				
Born in Australia	242.0	2 755.7	3 297.4	3 961.2
Born overseas	121.4	1 484.5	1 734.7	2 009.4
Born in main English-speaking countries	28.4	453.7	515.3	613.1
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	92.9	1 030.8	1 219.4	1 396.4
Time since last job				
Had a job	284.9	3 556.3	4 176.3	4 928.4
Under 12 months	116.9	293.5	426.7	656.9
1 and under 3 years	69.4	337.4	436.0	602.6
3 and under 5 years	32.3	282.6	346.3	468.2
5 and under 10 years	33.2	568.6	655.6	773.0
10 and under 20 years	21.0	845.7	970.2	1 059.4
20 years or more	12.2	1 228.6	1 341.5	1 368.4
Never had a job	78.4	685.2	857.7	1 044.0
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	16.1	1 577.5	1 664.8	1 746.7
Home duties	61.9	924.6	1 056.3	1 304.6
Caring for children	75.2	187.0	265.8	418.7
Attending an educational institution	106.1	587.0	705.1	954.4
Own long-term health condition or disability	48.5	365.5	647.3	696.8
Own short-term illness or injury	16.1	20.7	46.5	71.2
Looking after ill or disabled person	19.4	184.5	217.4	243.7
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*7.1	233.7	246.1	294.4
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*4.4	117.5	125.4	146.8
Other	8.4	43.5	59.2	95.0
Total	363.3	4 241.5	5 034.0	5 972.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(b) Includes 429,100 people (230,800 men and 198,300 women) who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(c) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE BECAUSE THEY WERE CARING FOR CHILDREN,
Selected personal characteristics—By sex

	NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING BUT AVAILABLE FOR WORK		NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING AND NOT AVAILABLE FOR WORK(a)		
	<i>All reasons for not actively looking for work included 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>Main reason not actively looking for work was 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>All reasons not available to start work included 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>Main reason not available to start work was 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>Total</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES					
Age group (years)					
15–24	20.6	18.2	10.4	9.4	31.0
25–34	78.9	67.6	33.5	31.3	112.4
35–44	61.9	52.6	26.4	25.0	88.2
45 and over	10.0	*7.3	*5.9	*5.5	15.9
Age of youngest child(b)					
0–2 years	92.5	82.7	56.4	53.3	148.9
3–4 years	38.5	31.6	9.5	8.5	47.9
5 years	12.6	10.4	**1.1	**1.1	13.8
6–12 years	24.5	19.2	*4.5	*4.0	29.0
Relationship in household(c)					
Family member(d)	170.2	145.4	75.4	70.4	245.6
Husband, wife or partner	130.0	112.1	59.1	56.2	189.1
Lone parent	38.9	32.0	15.3	13.1	54.2
Country of birth(e)					
Born in Australia	121.2	100.4	48.9	45.5	170.1
Born overseas	50.2	45.3	27.3	25.7	77.5
Born in main English-speaking Countries	17.2	15.7	*6.3	*6.0	23.5
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	33.0	29.6	21.0	19.6	54.0
Total(f)	171.4	145.7	76.2	71.2	247.6
PERSONS (g)					
Age group (years)					
15–24	21.3	18.2	11.0	9.4	32.2
25–34	83.4	71.2	33.5	31.3	116.9
35–44	64.8	54.9	27.6	25.9	92.5
45 and over	12.7	9.4	*6.0	*5.6	18.7
Age of youngest child(b)					
0–2 years	96.1	84.8	56.8	53.8	152.9
3–4 years	41.2	33.7	10.3	8.9	51.6
5 years	13.4	11.1	**1.1	**1.1	14.5
6–12 years	25.9	20.3	*4.5	*4.0	30.4
Relationship in household(c)					
Family member(d)	180.1	152.6	77.3	71.2	257.4
Husband, wife or partner	136.2	116.6	60.4	57.1	196.6
Lone parent	41.5	34.3	15.3	13.1	56.8
Country of birth(e)					
Born in Australia	130.8	107.5	50.8	46.5	181.7
Born overseas	51.3	46.2	27.3	25.7	78.6
Born in main English-speaking Countries	17.6	16.2	*6.3	*6.0	23.9
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	33.7	30.0	21.0	19.6	54.7
Total(f)	182.1	153.7	78.1	72.1	260.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) People who were not actively looking for work and not available for work were not asked the reasons why they were not actively looking for work. They were only asked the reasons why they were not available.

(b) Excludes people whose youngest child was aged 13 years or over, and 'Not applicable'.

(c) Excludes 'Non-family member' and 'Relationship not determined'.

(d) Includes 'Non-dependent child'.

(e) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

(f) Includes 'Non-family member and 'Relationship not determined'.

(g) Includes 'Males'.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, LAST JOB LESS THAN 20 YEARS AGO, Last job characteristics—By status in employment and full-time or part-time status—By sex

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS IN LAST JOB		Total(a) (b)
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	314.5	27.4	233.0	100.8	344.3
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	195.2	7.8	159.8	40.0	204.5
Job was temporary or seasonal	67.8	*4.6	21.3	48.9	73.2
Own business closed down for economic reasons	10.7	10.5	16.7	*3.5	21.2
Own short-term illness or injury	40.9	*4.6	35.1	8.4	45.5
Left a job	998.4	207.9	965.2	220.5	1 208.7
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	49.5	**1.2	30.1	20.5	50.6
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	11.3	10.3	18.1	*3.1	21.6
Retired, did not want to work any longer	441.8	111.7	491.3	55.6	553.5
Pregnancy or to have children	*2.4	**1.1	*3.4	—	*3.4
Own long-term health condition or disability	310.4	57.2	297.8	60.7	368.4
To get married	—	—	—	—	—
To look after family, house or someone else	45.7	*6.1	38.4	12.0	51.8
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	25.9	*2.8	18.2	10.5	28.7
Returned to studies	59.7	*3.1	21.9	40.7	64.5
Other	41.0	*4.0	29.3	14.0	45.0
Occupation of last job					
Managers	143.4	65.7	196.5	11.9	209.6
Professionals	176.8	25.6	157.1	40.2	202.4
Technicians and trades workers	259.3	65.9	283.8	35.2	325.3
Community and personal service workers	78.8	*4.4	51.1	31.6	84.3
Clerical and administrative workers	103.6	*7.1	84.3	25.4	110.7
Sales workers	87.3	11.7	60.2	36.6	99.0
Machinery operators and drivers	194.7	18.8	179.2	31.8	214.8
Labourers	250.3	25.1	162.2	103.0	276.5
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	118.5	10.0	70.8	52.7	128.9
Less than 13 weeks ago	93.2	8.7	57.5	39.4	101.9
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	11.9	**1.3	*5.1	8.0	13.2
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	13.5	—	8.2	*5.2	13.9
Had not looked for work	1 183.7	214.9	1 110.7	265.1	1 403.0
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	236.7	27.2	144.4	114.7	267.4
1 year and under 3 years	203.8	41.2	171.2	64.9	245.0
3 years and under 5 years	161.4	18.8	131.5	45.3	181.2
5 years and under 10 years	276.4	56.4	276.2	51.8	332.8
10 years and under 20 years	424.0	81.1	458.3	41.0	505.3
Total	1 302.2	224.8	1 181.5	317.7	1 531.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes people who were 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

continued

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS IN LAST JOB		Total(a) (b)
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	335.9	21.4	153.1	196.9	359.5
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	194.1	*4.4	95.5	100.3	199.9
Job was temporary or seasonal	79.4	*3.9	20.6	59.3	84.1
Own business closed down for economic reasons	9.3	11.3	12.4	8.2	20.6
Own short-term illness or injury	53.1	**1.7	24.5	29.1	54.9
Left a job	1 537.0	147.7	944.2	711.0	1 689.3
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	72.4	**1.7	26.1	45.1	74.0
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	13.3	19.1	22.0	10.4	32.4
Retired, did not want to work any longer	420.0	54.3	291.5	176.3	475.6
Pregnancy or to have children	397.0	15.0	259.9	146.3	412.7
Own long-term health condition or disability	227.8	20.0	145.0	95.7	248.6
To get married	10.6	**0.6	8.6	*2.6	11.2
To look after family, house or someone else	141.7	11.3	68.9	79.9	153.0
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	95.5	*2.5	47.7	48.3	98.5
Returned to studies	91.2	*3.7	27.6	66.6	95.1
Other	58.3	8.2	34.4	31.6	67.4
Occupation of last job					
Managers	119.4	48.3	139.8	25.3	167.7
Professionals	305.6	21.0	195.1	124.1	326.9
Technicians and trades workers	101.0	13.1	72.0	41.1	114.1
Community and personal service workers	278.2	15.6	124.2	160.9	294.6
Clerical and administrative workers	426.7	22.4	270.3	174.0	450.4
Sales workers	271.7	16.9	112.2	174.0	290.6
Machinery operators and drivers	50.1	*4.1	39.0	14.8	54.2
Labourers	307.2	15.1	129.0	184.2	324.2
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	172.1	*5.4	73.4	101.6	178.1
Less than 13 weeks ago	135.8	*4.3	58.2	81.0	140.8
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	12.6	**0.5	*6.7	*6.4	13.1
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	23.6	**0.6	8.5	14.2	24.2
Had not looked for work	1 691.6	152.4	1 011.3	798.1	1 850.0
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	368.0	20.7	145.7	233.8	389.5
1 year and under 3 years	331.8	24.9	162.1	188.9	357.5
3 years and under 5 years	267.1	19.6	162.0	118.5	286.9
5 years and under 10 years	394.8	43.5	264.4	166.6	440.2
10 years and under 20 years	501.9	48.9	350.6	191.8	554.1
Total	1 863.6	157.8	1 084.8	899.6	2 028.2

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes people who were 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

continued

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS IN LAST JOB		Total(a) (b)
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	650.5	48.9	386.0	297.6	703.8
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	389.3	12.3	255.3	140.2	404.4
Job was temporary or seasonal	147.2	8.4	42.0	108.2	157.3
Own business closed down for economic reasons	20.0	21.8	29.1	11.7	41.8
Own short-term illness or injury	94.0	*6.3	59.6	37.5	100.3
Left a job	2 535.3	355.5	1 909.4	931.4	2 898.0
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	121.8	*2.8	56.2	65.6	124.7
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	24.6	29.4	40.1	13.5	54.0
Retired, did not want to work any longer	861.8	166.0	782.8	231.9	1 029.1
Pregnancy or to have children	399.4	16.0	263.4	146.3	416.2
Own long-term health condition or disability	538.2	77.3	442.8	156.4	617.1
To get married	10.6	**0.6	8.6	*2.6	11.2
To look after family, house or someone else	187.4	17.4	107.3	91.8	204.8
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	121.4	*5.2	65.8	58.8	127.2
Returned to studies	150.9	*6.7	49.5	107.3	159.6
Other	99.2	12.3	63.7	45.5	112.4
Occupation of last job					
Managers	262.7	114.1	336.3	37.3	377.3
Professionals	482.4	46.6	352.2	164.3	529.3
Technicians and trades workers	360.4	79.0	355.9	76.3	439.4
Community and personal service workers	357.0	20.1	175.3	192.5	378.9
Clerical and administrative workers	530.2	29.6	354.7	199.4	561.1
Sales workers	359.0	28.6	172.4	210.6	389.5
Machinery operators and drivers	244.8	22.9	218.2	46.5	269.0
Labourers	557.5	40.1	291.2	287.3	600.7
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	290.6	15.3	144.3	154.2	307.0
Less than 13 weeks ago	229.0	13.0	115.7	120.4	242.7
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	24.5	*1.8	11.9	14.4	26.3
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	37.1	**0.6	16.7	19.4	38.0
Had not looked for work	2 875.2	367.3	2 122.0	1 063.1	3 253.0
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	604.7	48.0	290.0	348.5	656.9
1 year and under 3 years	535.6	66.2	333.3	253.8	602.6
3 years and under 5 years	428.4	38.5	293.4	163.8	468.2
5 years and under 10 years	671.2	100.0	540.6	218.4	773.0
10 years and under 20 years	925.9	130.0	808.9	232.8	1 059.4
Total	3 165.8	382.6	2 266.3	1 217.4	3 560.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes people who were 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	822.0	583.5	455.6	193.7	216.1	68.6	13.9	32.5	2 386.0
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	168.1	126.9	77.0	35.9	44.6	13.9	3.2	8.5	478.1
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	127.8	90.2	53.9	28.1	32.3	10.3	2.1	6.6	351.4
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	114.7	79.6	47.5	26.6	29.0	9.4	1.9	5.9	314.7
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers	14.0	12.1	*5.7	*2.2	*2.6	*1.0	**0.3	**0.4	38.3
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	40.3	36.7	23.1	7.7	12.3	3.6	*1.1	*1.8	126.7
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work	*6.6	*3.1	**0.5	**1.0	**0.7	**0.4	**0.1	**0.3	12.7
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	657.0	470.2	388.9	161.0	171.2	56.1	9.5	25.6	1 939.5
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	694.2	493.4	401.7	165.5	183.8	58.3	11.9	25.9	2 034.6
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	522.9	373.6	307.6	120.5	135.1	42.5	8.0	21.7	1 531.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	1 228.5	906.3	676.2	283.1	334.2	91.2	20.6	46.3	3 586.4
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	277.6	209.7	162.1	57.7	81.3	19.9	4.0	11.6	823.7
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	196.4	147.7	113.6	41.9	60.7	16.5	2.3	8.0	587.1
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	178.7	139.6	100.0	40.1	56.0	15.5	1.7	7.2	538.7
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers	19.4	12.1	12.3	3.4	*3.3	*1.5	—	**0.4	52.4
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	81.2	62.0	48.5	15.7	20.6	3.4	1.7	3.5	236.6
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work	87.9	65.1	45.8	12.4	25.8	5.4	1.8	3.3	247.6
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	998.6	741.4	592.6	238.8	283.7	78.7	14.6	40.6	2 989.0
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	1 032.1	758.6	562.7	241.2	273.6	74.7	18.3	38.3	2 999.3
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	657.1	498.3	428.8	148.1	203.5	50.3	10.8	31.3	2 028.2

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	2 050.5	1 489.8	1 131.8	476.8	550.3	159.8	34.5	78.8	5 972.4
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	445.7	336.5	239.1	93.5	125.9	33.7	7.2	20.0	1 301.8
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	324.2	237.9	167.5	70.1	93.0	26.8	4.4	14.6	938.4
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	293.5	219.2	147.5	66.8	85.0	24.9	3.5	13.1	853.4
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers	33.4	24.3	18.1	5.6	5.9	2.5	**0.3	*0.8	90.7
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	121.5	98.7	71.6	23.5	32.9	7.0	2.9	5.4	363.3
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work	94.5	68.2	46.3	13.4	26.6	5.8	1.9	3.6	260.3
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	1 655.5	1 211.6	981.5	399.8	454.9	134.9	24.1	66.2	4 928.4
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	1 726.3	1 251.9	964.3	406.7	457.4	133.0	30.1	64.2	5 034.0
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	1 180.0	871.9	736.4	268.6	338.6	92.8	18.7	53.0	3 560.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey that was conducted throughout Australia in September 2011 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who were in scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also applies to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

CONCEPTS SOURCES AND METHODS

3 The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

SCOPE

4 The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following people:

- members of the permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from the Census and estimated populations;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

5 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for people with disabilities), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

6 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded people living in Indigenous communities in very remote parts of Australia.

COVERAGE

7 The estimates in this publication relate to people covered by the survey in September 2011. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

SAMPLE SIZE

8 Supplementary surveys are not conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample.

9 The initial sample for the September 2011 LFS consisted of 36,312 private dwelling households and special dwelling units. Of the 29,288 private dwelling households and special dwelling units that remained in the survey after sample loss (e.g. households selected in the survey which had no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings under construction), approximately 27,365 or 93.4% were fully responding to the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. The number of completed interviews obtained from these private dwelling households and special dwelling units (after taking into account scope, coverage and subsampling exclusions) was 16,456.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

- 10** Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:
- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information, see the Technical Note.
 - Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient processing procedures.

SEASONAL FACTORS

- 11** The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month, and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

- 12** Occupation data are classified according to the ANZSCO—*Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1*, (cat. no. 1220.0).

- 13** Country of birth data are classified according to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), Second Edition* (cat. no. 1269.0).

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

- 14** The Labour Force Survey estimates, and estimates from the supplementary surveys, are calculated in such a way as to sum to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. Generally, revisions are made to population benchmarks after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing (Census), however revisions were made to the population benchmarks from July 2010, including those used for the 2011 Persons not in the Labour Force Survey, to reflect revisions to ERP. For more details on the population benchmarks, see the Explanatory Notes in *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), and for details about the revisions made, see the article in the September 2010 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

- 15** Persons Not in the Labour Force Surveys conducted up to and including September 1987 included all people aged 15 years and over. From September 1988 to September 2004, the survey excluded all people aged 70 years and over.

- 16** The scope of the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey was expanded in September 2005 to include all people aged 15 years and over. This change resulted in about 1.6 million extra people coming within the scope of this survey. Users need to exercise caution when comparing the estimates prior to 2005 with subsequent years. Direct comparisons should only be made where the populations are the same.

- 17** From September 2006, estimates of the number of people not in the labour force because they were caring for children, include people whose youngest child was aged 12 years and under. Previously questions relating to the care of children were only asked of people with children aged 11 years and under. This change was made to ensure consistency with other ABS surveys. Users need to exercise care when comparing the estimates in Table 9 of this publication with publications prior to September 2006.

- 18** Following a review of the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, a number of changes were implemented in the 2007 cycle. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 with previous years' data. The changes are documented in paragraphs 19 to 22 of the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES *continued*

19 Between September 2001 and September 2006, people who reported in the LFS that they were 'Permanently not intending to work' were not asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. As such, these people were classified as 'Did not want to work'. It is likely, however, that if they had been asked these questions, then some of these people may have been classified differently and may have been included in one of the 'Wanted to work' categories. From September 2007, people who specified that they were 'Permanently not intending to work' were asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work. As a result of this change, there has been a break in time series. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 and 2008 with previous years' data.

20 Prior to September 2007, the data items, 'All reasons for not actively looking for work', 'Main reason for not actively looking for work' and 'Main reason not available to start work within four weeks' included the category 'Own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy'. From September 2007, this category has been split into three separate categories: 'Own short-term illness or injury', 'Own long-term health condition or disability' and 'Pregnancy'.

21 Prior to September 2007, the data items, 'Reason for ceasing last job' and 'Main activity when not in the labour force' included the categories 'Own ill-health or injury' and 'Own disability or handicap'. From September 2007, these categories were renamed to ensure they were consistent with those in other data items and have been collected as 'Own short-term illness or injury' and 'Own long-term health condition or disability' respectively. While the way interviewers were instructed to code the responses to the relevant categories did not conceptually change, the renaming has caused a break in time series. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 with previous years' data.

22 From September 2007, a new data item, 'All reasons not available to start work within four weeks', has been collected in addition to 'Main reason not available to start work within four weeks'.

23 Prior to September 2008, the data item 'Main activity when not in the labour force' included the category 'Home duties or caring for children'. From September 2008, this category has been split into two separate categories, 'Home duties' and 'Caring for children'. Care should be taken in interpreting the data in these categories because some people with young children indicated that 'Home duties' was their main activity when not in the labour force, rather than 'Caring for children'.

24 From September 2009, a new response category, 'Believes ill-health or disability discourages employers' has been included in the data items 'Main reason not actively looking for work' and 'All reasons not actively looking for work'. This category is not presented in this publication, however, is available on request.

25 From September 2009, 'Believes ill-health or disability discourages employers' together with 'No jobs in suitable hours' are now included with other responses to derive the population group 'Discouraged job seekers'. Prior to September 2009, 'No jobs in suitable hours' was included in the category, 'Other'. As a result of this change, there is a break in time series and users need to exercise care when comparing estimates from 2009 with previous years' data. The following table compares categories affected by the change between 2008 and 2009.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES *continued*

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK

	2010		2009		2008	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Discouraged jobseekers	102.1	12.0	111.8	14.9	73.9	9.9
Believes ill health or disability discourages employers (from 2009)	*2.9	*0.3	*5.8	*0.8	—	—
No jobs in suitable hours (from 2009)	10.1	1.2	10.5	1.4	—	—
Other reasons	748.9	88.0	711.6	94.9	676.1	90.1
Personal reasons	373.4	43.9	348.3	46.4	323.5	43.1
Family reasons	242.4	28.5	231.7	30.9	226.7	30.2
No jobs in suitable hours (prior to 2008)	—	—	—	—	*7.6	*1.0
Other reasons	63.9	7.5	64.8	8.6	61.8	8.2
Had a job to go to	59.6	7.0	52.5	7.0	47.0	6.3
Did not know	9.5	1.1	14.2	1.9	9.6	1.3
Total	851.0	100.0	823.4	100.0	750.0	100.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

26 From September 2009, the method used to determine whether a respondent prefers full-time or part-time work has changed. In 2009, respondents were asked the number of hours they would prefer to work, whereas in previous years, they were asked whether they would prefer to work full-time or part-time. A new data item 'Preferred number of hours' is also now available. Both data items apply only to people who intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months. As a result of this change, there is a break in time series and users need to exercise care when comparing the estimates in Table 5 of this publication with publications prior to September 2009.

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

27 Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

28 The Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey was first conducted in May 1975 and again in May 1977. From 1979 to 1987 the survey was collected twice a year (March and September). Since then it has been conducted annually in September. Results of previous surveys were published in:

- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6220.0); and
- standard data service *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6220.0.40.001) for 1994 and 1995 (available in hardcopy only).

NEXT SURVEY

29 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in September 2012.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

30 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES *Spreadsheets*

31 Additional tables with time series data are released in spreadsheet format. These tables are available from the ABS website.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

32 ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0);
- *Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia* (cat. no. 6239.0);
- *Job Search Experience, Australia* (cat. no. 6222.0);
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001);
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (cat. no. 6265.0); and
- *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

33 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the Statistics Page on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items may also be available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the person in the survey to whom the data item relates.

For more information about ABS data available on request, telephone (02) 6252 7400, or email <information.consultancy@abs.gov.au>.

<i>Population 1:</i>	Persons not in the labour force
<i>Population 2:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work
<i>Population 3:</i>	Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force
<i>Population 4:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks
<i>Population 5:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers
<i>Population 6:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks
<i>Population 7:</i>	Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work
<i>Population 8:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job
<i>Population 9:</i>	Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force
<i>Population 10:</i>	Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>		<i>Populations</i>
1	State or territory of usual residence	All
	New South Wales	
	Victoria	
	Queensland	
	South Australia	
	Western Australia	
	Tasmania	
	Northern Territory	
	Australian Capital Territory	
2	Area of usual residence	All
	State capital city	
	Balance of state/territory	
3	Region of usual residence	All
	Standard labour force dissemination regions	
4	Sex	All
	Males	
	Females	
5	Marital status	All
	Married	
	Not married	
6	Relationship in household	All
	Family member	
	Husband, wife or partner	
	With dependants	
	Without dependants	
	Lone parent	
	With dependants	
	Without dependants	
	Dependent student	
	Non-dependent child	
	Other related individual	
	Non-family member	
	Lone person	
	Not living alone	
	Relationship not determined	
7A	Country of birth and period of arrival	All
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	Arrived before 1971	
	Arrived 1971–1980	
	Arrived 1981–1990	
	Arrived 1991–2000	
	Arrived 2001 to survey date	
7B	Country of birth (1)	All
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	Born in main English-speaking countries	
	Born in other than main English-speaking countries	
7C	Country of birth (2)	All
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	Oceania and Antarctica	
	North-West Europe	
	Southern and Eastern Europe	
	North Africa and the Middle East	
	South-East Asia	
	North-East Asia	
	Southern and Central Asia	
	Americas	
	Sub-Saharan Africa	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>		<i>Populations</i>
8	Age group (years) 15–19 20–24 25–34 35–44 45–54 55–59 60–64 65–69 70 and over Note: Age collected in single years	All
9	Full-time study status (15–24 year olds) Were full-time students Were not full-time students Did not know	All
10A	Persons not in the labour force summary variable With marginal attachment to the labour force Wanted to work and were actively looking for work Were available to start work within four weeks Were not available to start work within four weeks Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks Discouraged job seekers Other Without marginal attachment to the labour force Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks Did not want to work Permanently unable to work	1, 8, 10
10B	Marginal attachment summary variable Wanted to work and were actively looking for work Were available to start work within four weeks Were not available to start work within four weeks Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks Discouraged job seekers Other	3
11	Whether wanted to work Wanted to work Might want to work Did not want to work Did not know Permanently unable to work	1, 8, 10
12	Whether looked for work in the last 12 months Had looked for work Less than 5 weeks ago 5 weeks and less than 8 weeks ago 8 weeks and less than 13 weeks ago 13–52 weeks ago 13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago 26 weeks and less than 39 weeks ago 39–52 weeks ago Had not looked for work	All
13	Main activity when not in the labour force Retired or voluntarily inactive Home duties Caring for children Attending an educational institution Own long-term health condition or disability Own short-term illness or injury Looking after ill or disabled person Travel, holiday or leisure activity Working in unpaid voluntary job Other	All

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

Data items

Populations

14A Time since last job	All
Had a job	
Under 12 months	
1 week and under 4 weeks	
4 weeks and under 8 weeks	
8 weeks and under 13 weeks	
13 weeks and under 26 weeks	
26 weeks and under 39 weeks	
39 weeks and under 52 weeks	
1 year and under 3 years	
3 years and under 10 years	
3 years and under 5 years	
5 years and under 10 years	
10 years or more	
10 years and under 20 years	
20 years or more	
Never had a job	
14B Whether had a job in the last 20 years	All
Had a job	
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
15 Reason for ceasing last job	All
Had a job	
Lost a job	
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	
Job was temporary or seasonal	
Own short-term illness or injury	
Own business closed down for economic reasons	
Left a job	
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
Retired, did not want to work any longer	
Own long-term health condition or disability	
Returned to studies	
Pregnancy or to have children	
To get married	
To look after family, house or someone else	
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	
Other	
Never had a job	
16 Occupation in last job	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Managers	
Professionals	
Technicians and trades workers	
Community and personal service workers	
Clerical and administrative workers	
Sales workers	
Machinery operators and drivers	
Labourers	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
17A Status in employment in last job (1)	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Employer	
Own account worker	
Employee	
Contributing family worker	
Unpaid voluntary worker	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
17B Status in employment in last job (2)	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Employee	
Own account worker/Employer	
Other	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
18 Full-time or part-time status in last job	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Full-time	
Part-time	
Varied/Did not know	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
19A Intention to enter the labour force	All
Intended to enter	
Might enter	
Did not intend to enter	
Did not know	
Permanently unable to work	
Not Applicable (full-time student)	
19B Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	All
Intended to enter	
Might enter	
Did not intend to enter	
Did not know	
Permanently unable to work	
20 Full-time or part-time preference	All
Full-time	
Part-time	
Did not know	
Not intending to work	
21 Main reason for not actively looking for work	4
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	
Were available to start work within four weeks	
Were not available to start work within four weeks	
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	
Discouraged job seekers	
Considered too young by employers	
Considered too old by employers	
Believes ill health or disability discourages employers	
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	
No jobs in locality or line of work	
No jobs in suitable hours	
No jobs at all	
Other reasons	
Personal reasons	
Own short-term illness or injury	
Own long-term health condition or disability	
Pregnancy	
Attending an educational institution	
Had no need to work	
Welfare payments or pension may be affected	
Moved house or holidays	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

Data items

Populations

21 Main reason for not actively looking for work *cont.*

4

Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks *cont.*

Other reasons *cont.*

Family reasons

Ill health of other than self

Caring for children

No child care in locality

No child care available at all

Cost or too expensive

Booked out or no places available

Children too young or too old

Prefers to look after children

Quality of child care unsuitable

Other reasons

Other family considerations

Other reasons

Had a job to go to

Did not know

22 All reasons for not actively looking for work

4

Discouraged job seekers

Considered too young by employers

Considered too old by employers

Believes disability discourages employers

Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience

Difficulties because of language or ethnic background

No jobs in locality or line of work

No job in suitable hours

No jobs at all

Other reasons

Personal reasons

Own short-term illness or injury

Own long-term health condition or disability

Pregnancy

Attending an educational institution

Had no need to work

Welfare payments or pension may be affected

Moved house or holidays

Family reasons

Ill health of other than self

Caring for children

Other family considerations

Other reasons

Had a job to go to

Did not know

23 Main reason not working due to caring for children

7

No child care in locality

No child care available at all

Cost or too expensive

Booked out or no places available

Children too young or too old

Prefers to look after children

Quality of child care unsuitable

Other child care reasons

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

Data items

Populations

24	Main reason not available to start work within four weeks	6
	Personal reasons	
	Own short-term illness or injury	
	Own long-term health condition or disability	
	Pregnancy	
	Studying or returning to studies	
	Moved house or holidays	
	Family reasons	
	Ill health of other than self	
	Unable to find suitable child care	
	Children too young or preferred to look after children	
	On a job-related training program	
	Other reasons	
25	All reasons not available to start work within four weeks	6
	Personal reasons	
	Own short-term illness or injury	
	Own long-term health condition or disability	
	Pregnancy	
	Studying or returning to studies	
	Moved house or holidays	
	Family reasons	
	Ill health of other than self	
	Caring for children	
	On a job-related training program	
	Other reasons	
26	Age of youngest child	7
	0–2 years	
	3–4 years	
	5 years	
	6–9 years	
	10–12 years	
27	Number of children	7
	Aged 0–2 years	
	Aged 3–4 years	
	Aged 5 years	
	Aged 6–9 years	
	Aged 10–12 years	
28	Preferred number of hours	All
	1–15 hours	
	16–29 hours	
	30–34 hours	
	35–39 hours	
	40 hours	
	41–44 hours	
	45–48 hours	
	49 hours or more	
	Did not know	
	Not intending to work	

APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS LIST

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program and Multi-Purpose Household Survey program collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of labour surveys collected in these programs. Data from these surveys are available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	<i>cat. no.</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Latest issue</i>
Monthly Population Supplementary Surveys			
Childhood Education and Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 2008
Child Employment, Australia	6211.0	Irregular	June 2006
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2011
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2010
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Annual	November 2010
Job Search Experience, Australia	6222.0	Annual	July 2011
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2011
Characteristics of Recent Migrants, Australia(a)	6250.0	Irregular	November 2010
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2010
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	November 2008
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(b)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2011
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2011
Working Time Arrangements, Australia(c)	6342.0	Irregular	November 2009
Multi-Purpose Household Surveys			
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	6239.0	Biennial	2010–2011
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Biennial	2010–2011
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	2009–2010

- (a) This product replaces the publication Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia (cat. no. 6250.0).
- (b) Latest data available on request July 2001.
- (c) This product replaces the publication Working Arrangements, Australia (cat. no. 6340.0).

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

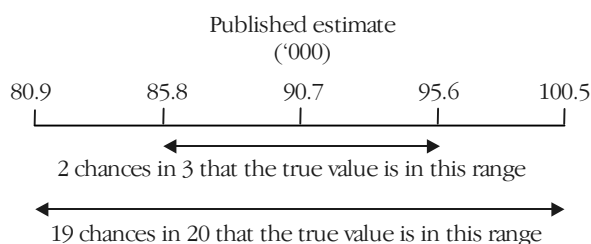
3 Due to sample reduction/reinstatement, the sample size of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and supplementary surveys has varied from July 2008. Detailed information about the sample reduction/re-instatement is provided in *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 (Third edition)* (cat. no. 6269.0).

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

4 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 1 shows that the estimated number of people in Australia who were discouraged job seekers was 90,700. Since the estimate is between 50,000 and 100,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 3,850 and 5,100 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &SE \text{ of estimate} \\
 &= \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\
 &= 3,850 + \left(\left(\frac{90,700 - 50,000}{100,000 - 50,000} \right) \times (5,100 - 3,850) \right) \\
 &= 4,900 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}
 \end{aligned}$$

5 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 85,800 to 95,600 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 80,900 to 100,500. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



6 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are

CALCULATION OF STANDARD
ERROR *continued*

considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g.*3.2) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g.**0.4), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%.

PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGES

7 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

8 Considering the example above, of the 90,700 people who were discouraged job seekers, 52,400 or 57.8% were females. The SE of 52,400 may be calculated by interpolation as 3,900. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or 3,900/52,400=7.4%. The SE for 90,700 was calculated previously as 4,900 which converted to an RSE is 4,900/90,700=5.4%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(7.4)^2 - (5.4)^2} = 5.1\%$$

9 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of discouraged job seekers who were females is 3.0 percentage points (= (57.8/100)x5.1). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females who were discouraged job seekers was between 54.8% and 60.8% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 51.8% to 63.8%.

DIFFERENCES

10 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

11 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

STANDARD ERRORS

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

	AUST.									
<i>Size of estimate (persons)</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>RSE</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
100	160	170	150	150	160	110	100	90	110	110.0
200	270	270	240	220	240	160	140	160	200	100.0
300	350	340	310	280	310	200	170	200	270	90.0
500	470	460	430	360	410	250	210	270	390	78.0
700	580	560	520	420	490	290	250	320	490	70.0
1,000	710	680	640	490	580	340	290	370	620	62.0
1,500	880	830	800	590	700	400	360	430	790	52.7
2,000	1 030	960	930	670	800	440	420	470	930	46.5
2,500	1 150	1 050	1 050	750	900	500	450	500	1 050	42.0
3,000	1 250	1 150	1 150	800	950	500	500	500	1 150	38.3
3,500	1 350	1 250	1 200	850	1 000	550	550	550	1 250	35.7
4,000	1 450	1 350	1 300	900	1 050	550	600	550	1 350	33.8
5,000	1 600	1 450	1 400	1 000	1 150	600	700	650	1 550	31.0
7,000	1 850	1 700	1 650	1 100	1 350	700	900	750	1 800	25.7
10,000	2 150	1 950	1 900	1 250	1 500	850	1 250	950	2 100	21.0
15,000	2 500	2 300	2 200	1 500	1 750	1 050	1 750	1 250	2 500	16.7
20,000	2 800	2 550	2 400	1 700	2 000	1 250	2 200	1 500	2 800	14.0
30,000	3 200	2 900	2 750	2 100	2 500	1 550	3 050	1 850	3 250	10.8
40,000	3 550	3 200	3 150	2 450	3 000	1 750	3 750	2 050	3 550	8.9
50,000	3 850	3 550	3 500	2 750	3 400	2 000	4 400	2 200	3 850	7.7
100,000	5 400	5 100	5 100	3 900	5 000	2 700	6 800	2 500	5 100	5.1
150,000	6 850	6 550	6 450	4 700	6 150	3 250	8 600	2 500	6 050	4.0
200,000	8 200	7 800	7 600	5 350	7 050	3 650	..	..	6 950	3.5
300,000	10 350	9 900	9 300	6 300	8 500	4 250	..	..	8 450	2.8
500,000	13 350	13 300	11 800	7 550	10 500	5 050	..	..	11 050	2.2
1,000,000	17 850	19 600	15 450	9 400	13 600	..	..	..	16 350	1.6
2,000,000	22 250	28 350	19 200	11 200	16 950	..	..	..	23 700	1.2
5,000,000	26 700	45 150	23 500	..	..	..	..	..	34 200	0.7
10,000,000	28 300	63 050	..	..	..	..	..	..	41 050	0.4
15,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44 050	0.3

.. not applicable

T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% AND 50%(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
<i>Percentage</i>	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
RSE of 25%	7 700	6 600	6 300	3 300	4 500	1 700	1 400	1 800	7 300
RSE of 50%	2 100	1 800	1 700	1 000	1 300	500	400	600	1 700

(a) Refers to the number of people contributing to the estimate.

GLOSSARY

Actively looking for work	<p>People who were taking active steps to find work. Active steps comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ registering with an employment agency; ■ contacting an employment agency; ■ contacting prospective employers; ■ answering a newspaper advertisement for a job; ■ checking noticeboards; ■ advertising or tendering for work; and ■ contacting friends or relatives.
Age of youngest child	Age of the youngest child, 12 years and under, in the household.
Available to start work within four weeks	People who were available to start work within four weeks or, for people with children aged 12 years and under, could start work within four weeks if suitable child care was available.
Did not want to work	People who were not classified as employed or unemployed who answered 'no' when asked if they would like a job.
Discouraged job seekers	<p>People with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ considered to be too young by employers; ■ considered to be too old by employers; ■ believes ill health or disability discourages employers; ■ lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience; ■ difficulties because of language or ethnic background; ■ no jobs in their locality or line of work; ■ no jobs in suitable hours; and ■ no jobs at all.
Employed	<p>People who, during the reference week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or ■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or ■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or ■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or ■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or ■ on strike or locked out; or ■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or ■ were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Family	Two or more people, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.
Family reasons for not actively looking for work	Includes ill health of someone other than themselves, caring for children and other family considerations.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Full-time preference	People who preferred to work 35 hours or more a week. Note that for the purposes of this publication, full-time preference is derived from data collected on respondents' preferred number of hours and applies to those who intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.
Full-time or part-time status of last job	The perception of people of whether they worked full-time or part-time in their last job.
Future starters	People waiting to start, within four weeks of the end of the reference week, a new job that they have already obtained (and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then). Under International Labour Organisation (ILO) guidelines, these persons do not have to be actively looking for work to be classified as unemployed.
Had a job to go to	People who were waiting to start a job, but would not be starting within four weeks. Also includes people who had a job but, up to the end of the reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.
Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	The intention of people to work or look for work in the 12 months following the interview.
Job	Any employment, full-time or part-time, lasting two weeks or more.
Labour force	The civilian population can be split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed people) and persons not in the labour force.
Left a job	People who are classified as voluntarily ceasing their last job.
Lost a job	People who are classified as involuntarily ceasing their last job.
Main activity when not in the labour force	The main activity of people who are not in the labour force since they last worked or looked for work (or in the last year if they haven't worked in that time).
Marginal attachment to the labour force	<p>People who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ were actively looking for work but did not meet the availability criterion to be classified as unemployed; or ■ were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks. <p>The criteria for determining those in the labour force are based on activity (i.e. working or looking for work) and availability to start work during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work and reasons for not actively looking for work, are more subjective. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondent's own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation may be affected by their work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.</p> <p>For more information see <i>Labour Force, Australia (6202.0) Understanding the Australian Labour Force Using ABS Statistics</i>.</p>
Main English-speaking countries	The list of main English-speaking countries provided here is not an attempt to classify countries on the basis of whether or not English is the predominant or official language of each country. It is a list of the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These countries comprise the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and the United States of America.
Occupation of last job	An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their title and tasks, skill level and skill specialisation which are grouped together for the purposes of classification. In this publication, occupation refers to Major Group as defined by ANZSCO— <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1</i> (cat. no. 1220.0) and relates to persons who have had a job less than 20 years ago only.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Part-time preference	People who preferred to work one to 34 hours a week. Note that for the purposes of this publication, part-time preference is derived from data collected on respondents' preferred number of hours and applies to those who intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.
Personal reasons for not actively looking for work	Includes 'own short-term illness or injury' or 'long-term health condition or disability', 'pregnancy', 'attending an educational institution', 'had no need to work', 'welfare payments or pension may be affected', and 'moved house or on holidays'.
Persons in the labour force	People who were classified as being in the labour force, that is, either employed or unemployed.
Persons not in the labour force	People who were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined.
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children	People who wanted to work and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ were not actively looking for work because they were caring for children, but were available to start work within four weeks; or ■ were not actively looking for work and reported that they were not available to start work within four weeks because they were caring for children.
Preferred number of hours	The number of hours people, who intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months, would like to work each week.
Reference week	The week preceding the week in which the interview was conducted.
Status in employment of last job	People who had a job in the last 20 years classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, contributing family workers or unpaid voluntary workers in their last job.
Time since last job	The elapsed time since ceasing the last job.
Unemployed	People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or ■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.
Wanted to work	People not in the labour force who were not actively looking for work who answered 'yes' or 'maybe' when asked if they would like a job, as well as those people not in the labour force who were actively looking. It is assumed these people want a job as they are actively looking.

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